



MEMORANDUM

TO: Indiana School Superintendents
Indiana School Principals

FROM: Phyllis J. Lewis, School Health Services Coordinator

DATE: April 11, 2008

SUBJECT: National School Nurse Day

National School Nurse Day will be celebrated on Wednesday, May 7 this year during National Nurse Week (May 6-12). National School Nurse Day has been established to foster a better understanding of the role of school nurses in the educational setting, and to provide an opportunity for schools and communities to recognize the contributions nurses make toward the health and education of their students.

School nurses work diligently in the school environment every day, serving not only our children and youth but also their teachers and community by providing valuable school health services. Professional school nurses strengthen and facilitate the educational process by improving and protecting the health status of children and youth through prevention, intervention, collaboration and advocacy. These health and safety measures impact a student's ability to learn and to experience academic and personal success.

On May 7th, school corporations, schools and communities are encouraged to show their appreciation for the contributions made school nurses through such activities as:

- Publicly recognizing the school nurse as a professional member of the education team and a valuable community resource.
- Recognizing the school nurse with appropriate mementos of appreciation (i.e. pin, cup, proclamation, etc.)
- Asking the school nurse to make a presentation to the school board, PTA/PTO, faculty and parent and community groups
- Arranging for an interview with local television station(s), radio station(s), and newspapers to spotlight "What School Nurses Do"
- Writing an article for the newspaper, television and radio about National School Nurse Day and health promotion activities or health concerns

- Writing an article in the school and/or district newspaper about the school nurse(s) employed in the district
- Encouraging students to write letters or make posters about what the school nurse(s) means to them
- Constructing a school bulletin board focusing on the role of the school nurse
- Encouraging parents and school board members to visit the school nurse(s)

Thank you for your support in recognizing school nurses on **National School Nurse Day!** Healthy children are better learners.